

Blood Diamonds

by Greg Campbell

Blood diamonds starts in Sierra Leone in the early nineteen nineties where the RUF the main rebel group in control over the diamond mines in Sierra Leone are raiding a small village for young men and women to take and use in the mines for hard labor. The people in the village that can't be taken and used for hard labor in the mines are either shot and killed or have their hands chopped off by the RUF. Many times the rebels take diamond mines, and mine them illegally and take the profit to use to buy more weapons to fuel their war with the government and other tribes over the many diamond concessions in the jungle of Sierra Leone. There are also problems of gun running from neighboring countries like Liberia, trading the guns for diamonds. Many of these diamonds are taken to many central European countries, cut, polished, and put out on the open market. The RUF also have a tendency to take small children to the diamond mines and force them into the bottom of the diamond pits to dig for diamonds. The RUF also force their slaves to sleep beside the diamond pit so the people don't steal the diamonds they recover. If they are caught stealing diamonds, then they could be shot and killed on the spot or they could be tortured for weeks on end until they finally are killed. This book helped me with my research greatly, it also helped me learn more about blood diamonds and how they are mined in West Africa.